REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended. Support for amended claim 1 can be found in Working Examples 3 and 4, as well as Production Example 4 (see Tables 2, 4 and 5). Claims 17 and 18 have been added. Support for Claim 17 can be found in the original subject matter of Claim 1. Support for Claim 18 can be found in Examples 3 and 4. Claims 6-16 have been canceled. Thus, no new matter has been added. Upon entry of the Amendment, which is respectfully requested, Claims 1-5 and 17-18 will be pending.

Response to Claim Rejections Under §§ 102/103

Claims 6-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Saegusa US 5846505.

Claims 6-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Uchida US 2002/0064499.

Claims 6-16 have been canceled. Thus, the rejections have been rendered moot. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Response to claim Rejections Under § 103

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,846,505 to Saegusa.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0064499 to Uchida.

Applicants respectfully traverse.

The barium titanate powder of the present invention satisfies the requirements that the ratio c/a is 1.008 or more, the ratio d/D is from 1 to 1.89, and the atomic ratio Ba/Ti, is from 0.996 to 0.998, and provides a sintered body with high density.

Saegusa discloses $BaTiO_3$ in which a ratio Ba/Ti is 1. *See,* col. 3, line 59.

Similarly, Uchida discloses that barium carbonate and titanium oxide were weighed so as to have a molar ratio of 1:1, and that the powder obtained was single phase $BaTiO_3$. *See,* Example 1. Uchida further discloses that the single phase $BaTiO_3$ has an atomic ratio Ba/Ti of 1.

Accordingly, neither Saegusa nor Uchida disclose or suggest a barium titanate powder having an atomic ratio Ba/Ti of from 0.996 to 0.998.

In addition, as shown in the present specification, the barium titanate powder of Working Example 3 has a higher density than that of Example 1 (corresponding to the $BaTiO_3$ of Saegusa).

	c/a	d/D	Ba/Ti	density of sintered body
Example 3	1.0097	1.06	0.998	5.92 g/cm^3
Example 1	1.0095	1.12	1.000	5.82 g/cm^3

Thus, Saegusa and Uchida fail to render obvious the present claims. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

John T. Callahan / Bruce E. Kramer Reg. No 33,725

John T. Callahan
Registration No. 32,607

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

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